An Account
Of a ſmall Book in French , *entituled*
HISTOIRE DES JOYAUX.
ET
Des Principales Richeſſes de l' Orient *et de l'* Occident ,
par le Sr. Chapuzeau.

THis Hiſtory treats of Diamonds, Rubies, Emeraulds, Pearls, Coral, Bezoar, Yellow Amber, Amber-gris, Indigo, *&c.*

Of *Diamonds* , The Author ſhews :

1. The *Places* , whence they are taken ; of which he finds true Five in all the *Eaſt-Indies*, whereof *two* are *Rivers* , vid. *Saccadan* in *Borneo* , and *Nage* in the Kingdom of *Bengala* ; at the bottom of both which , *he ſaith* , the Diamonds are found among the ſand , after the waters , that fall as great Torrents from the Mountains , are run off ; and the three others are *Mines* , in the Kingdoms of *Decan*, *Cuncan*, and *Golconda*. In this Relation he obſerves , that the Diamonds which are found at the bottom of thoſe Rivers, have the beſt *Water* ; but thoſe, in Mines , have often *Flaws* (which he imputes to the violent knockings of the Rock) and *Blebs* , aſcribed to the condition of the Earth or Sand they are found in , *vid.* when that is not pure , but fattiſh or black. He takes alſo notice , that Diamonds are the heavieſt of precious Stones , as Gold is of Mettals.

2. The *Manner* , how they are found and ſeparated ; which is the ſame in ſubſtance, with that, deſcribed *Num* 18. *p.* 328.

3. The *Price* of them , according to the proportion of their weight ; for which he gives this Rule. Take , ſaith he , a Diamond of 10 *Carats* : this number is to be ſquared (which makes 100.) then , if the Stone be clean , each Carat according to its perfection , may be worth 40 to 60 Crowns ; if it have no good water, or have a Bleb or Flaw, the Carat will not be worth but from 10 to 30 Crowns. So multiplying the ſaid 100 by the number , which each Carat of ſuch or ſuch a Stone may be worth, the product is the price of the Stone.

For

For *Rubies*, he diſcourſes alſo of the *Places*, where *they* are found; and of their *Price*. The *Places*, are, the Kingdom of *Pegu*, and the Iſle of *Ceylon*; whence very few are ſuffered to be carried away. The *Price* is, that a good *Rubi* of the weight of 1 *Rati* (which is $\frac{7}{8}$ of a *Carat*) is eſteemed at 20 old *Pagodes* in *India*, each *Pagode* being about 10 ſhillings *Engliſh*.

Ratis.		*Pagodes.*
Of 2	is valued at	100.
Of 3	——	250.
Of 4	——	500.
Of 5	——	900.
Of 6	——	1500.
Of 7	——	2300.
Of 12	——	12000.

Concerning *Turquois*, they are found in *Perſia*, in the Province of *Chamaquay*, North of *Iſpahan*, in two Mines, called the *Old* and the *New* Rock. Theſe of the *New*, are of an ill whitiſh Blew; but thoſe of the *Old*, are not ſuffered to be digged out, but by the King of *Perſia* himſelf.

Emeraulds are affirm'd by him, never to be found in the *Eaſt-Indies*, but in *Perou*, whence they were carried by that Trading People to the *Moluccas*, even before *America* was diſcovered by the *Europeans*; and ſo they come from the Orient; of much leſs value, than they were formerly, by reaſon of their commonneſs. The Author notes, that *Emeraulds* grow in ſtones, juſt as Chryſtals, forming a Vein, in which they are by little and little refined and thickned: and that ſome of them are ſeen, half white and half green; others, all white; and others all green and perfect.

To *Pearls* he aſſigns in the *Orient*, four places, where they are fiſhed: The Iſle of *Baharem* in the *Perſian Gulf*: The Coaſt of *Arabia Felix*, near the Town of *Catif*, over againſt *Baharem*: The Iſle of *Ceylon* about *Manar*: The Iſle of *Japan*. The beſt at *Ceylon*, but ſmall; the biggeſt at *Japan*, but uneven. In the *Weſt-Indies* they are fiſh'd in the *North-Sea*, in the Iſles of *Marguerite*, *Cubagva*, St. *Marthe*; and at *Comana*, and *Comanagote*, near the Continent; and in the *South-Sea*, near *Panama*: which

American

American ſort, though they are much inferiour to the *Oriental*, in Luſtre, yet they far excel them in bigneſs, amounting ſometimes (ſaith this *Author*) to 42 *Carats*.

In this Relation 'tis mention'd, that ſometimes 5. or 6. *Pearls* are found in one Oyſter: That *Pearl-fiſhers* are fed with dry and roaſted meat, to give them better breathing: That Pearl-bearing Oyſters are not good to eat, being flat and hard of digeſtion, *&c.*

As to the *Price* of good *Pearls*, well faſhiond, he marketh it, as follows:

Such a Pearl of

Grain.	*Crowns.*
1	1
2	4
3	9
Carats.	
1	16
1 1/4	25
1 1/2	36
1 3/4	49
2	64
2 1/4	81
2 1/2	100
2 3/4	121
3	144
3 1/4	160
3 1/2	196
3 3/4	225
4	256

Carats.	*Crowns.*
4 1/4	289
4 1/2	324
4 3/4	361
5	400
5 1/4	441
5 1/2	484
5 3/4	529
6	576
6 1/4	625
6 1/2	675
6 3/4	729
7	784
7 1/4	841
7 1/2	900
7 3/4	960
8	1024

Of *Corals*, He taketh notice, *where* they are fiſhed, and *in what manner*. The *Places*, *he ſaith*, to be *Eight*; *Three* upon the Coaſts

Coaſts of *Corſica* and *Sardinia*, *vid.* at *Argueil* (where is the beſt) *Baza*, and near the *Iſle of St. Peter*: *One* upon the Coaſt of *Sicily*, near *Drepanum*: *Two* upon the Coaſt of *Africa*, near the *Baſtion of France*, and at *Tabarca*: *One* more, upon the Coaſt of *Catalonia*, at the *Cape* of *Quiers*: And the laſt, about *Majorca*. Obſerving, that red Coral is not found, but in the *Mediteranean* alone, where 'tis fiſhed from the beginning of *April*, till the end of *July*, employing commonly about 200 Boats. The *manner* of fiſhing them, is with two big beams of wood, laid croſs wiſe, with a good piece of Lead on the middle, to make it ſink, caſting about it courſe Hemp, careleſly twiſted, and tying this Wood to two Ropes, whereof one hangs at the Sterne, the other at the fore-part of the Boat; and ſo letting this contrivance fall into the Current, along the Rocks, where the Hemp being turned about, and engaged in the Coral, there need ſometimes many Boats to draw away the Inſtrument.

Bezoar he ſaith, is not onely found in *Golconda*, in the Province of *Renquery*, in the Maw of Goats, whereof ſome are at times furniſht with a dozen a piece; but alſo at *Macaſſar*, in the Iſle of *Celebes*, in the Body of Apes; bigger than thoſe found in *Golconda*. He mentions, that the people in thoſe parts, to find whether a Goat hath any of thoſe *Bezoar-ſtones* in its body, do beat his belly with their hands, and rub it, till all the ſtones in the Animal come together, and then they feel and tell them, as you do ſtones in a Bag, *&c.*

F I N I S.

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